

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 24, 25, 28, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 45 and 46 are amended. Claims 14 and 30 are cancelled. Claims 47 and 48 are added.

1 1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for the
2 real-time tracking of goods in a supply chain, including:
3 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to
4 store or carry the goods;
5 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing
6 information on said location at a site server ~~to said data appliance~~;
7 uploading said information to a data center, said data center coupled to said
8 site server;
9 compensating for a mistake in said marking by a creating tag read at said data
10 center for a missing tag read; and
11 charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked
12 goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using said
13 location information regarding each tracked good.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including
2 aggregating one or more of said goods into a conveyance at a data point and wherein said
3 marking includes indicating an aggregation event occurred at said data point.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said marking
2 further includes performing aggregation-by-inference, wherein an aggregation event
3 occurring at said location for a conveyance automatically indicates that said conveyance
4 has been completely filled with items.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 2, further including
2 performing de-aggregation-by-inference at a second data point, wherein a de-aggregation
3 event indicating that all items have been removed from said conveyance is generated.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said tag affixed
2 to said one of the goods is a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag and said marking
3 includes scanning said tag affixed to said one of the goods using an RFID reader.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said one of the
2 goods is stored in one of said conveyances, and said marking includes scanning said tag
3 affixed to said one of said conveyances using a reader.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said marking
2 includes scanning a tag using a tag reader.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said
2 tag reader is coupled to said a data appliance.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said
2 tag reader is part of said a data appliance.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said marking
2 includes tracking said one of the goods using global positioning satellite (GPS)
3 technology.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said storing
2 utilizes the Universal Data Appliance Protocol (UDAP) to communicate said location
3 information from said data appliance to said site server.

1 12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further
2 including ~~said~~ accessing said data center and viewing said reports.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including
2 aggregating a good into a conveyance when said good is loaded into said conveyance and

3 de-aggregating said good from said conveyance when said good is unloaded from said
4 conveyance.

1 14. (Cancelled)

1 15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein
2 said compensating includes detecting that said missing tag read occurred by learning that
3 a tag read was made on said good at a first location and at a third location, but not at a
4 second location, wherein said good could not arrive at said third location without first
5 passing through said second location.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including
2 filtering out any duplicative tag reads.

1 17. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method
2 for the real-time tracking of goods in a supply chain, including:
3 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to
4 store or carry the goods;
5 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing
6 information on said location at a site server coupled ~~to said data~~
7 ~~appliance~~;
8 uploading said location information to a data center, said data center coupled
9 to said site server;
10 compensating for a mistake in said marking by a creating tag read for a
11 missing tag read; and
12 charging users of said supply chain a fee per transaction to access said data
13 center and view reports ~~compiled using location~~ information regarding
14 each tracked good, each transaction including a single tag read.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further including
2 aggregating one or more of said goods into a conveyance at a data point and wherein said
3 marking includes indicating an aggregation event occurred at said data point.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said marking
2 further includes performing aggregation-by-inference, wherein an aggregation event
3 occurring at said location for a conveyance automatically indicates that said conveyance
4 has been completely filled with items.

1 20. (Original) The method of claim 18, further including de-
2 aggregation-by-inference at a second data point, wherein a de-aggregation event
3 indicating that all items have been removed from said conveyance is generated.

1 21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said tag
2 affixed to said one of the goods is a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag and said
3 marking includes scanning said tag affixed to said one of the goods using an RFID
4 reader.

1 22. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said one of the
2 goods is stored in one of said conveyances, and said marking includes scanning said tag
3 affixed to said one of said conveyances using a reader.

1 23. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said marking
2 includes scanning a tag using a tag reader.

1 24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein
2 said tag reader is coupled to said a data appliance.

1 25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein
2 said tag reader is part of said a data appliance.

1 26. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said marking
2 includes tracking said one of the goods using global positioning satellite (GPS)
3 technology.

1 27. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said storing
2 utilizes the Universal Data Appliance Protocol (UDAP) to communicate location
3 information from said data appliance to said site server.

1 28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further
2 including said accessing said data center and viewing said reports.

1 29. (Original) The method of claim 17, further including
2 aggregating a good into a conveyance when said good is loaded into said conveyance and
3 de-aggregating said good from said conveyance when said good is unloaded from said
4 conveyance.

1 30. (Cancelled)

1 31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 30, wherein
2 said compensating includes detecting that a missing tag read occurred by learning that a
3 tag read was made on said good at a first location and at a third location, but not at a
4 second location, wherein said good could not arrive at said third location without first
5 passing through said second location.

1 32. (Original) The method of claim 29, further including
2 filtering out any duplicative tag reads.

1 33. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of
2 goods in a supply chain, including:
3 a data center comprising compensation logic;
4 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;
5 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to
6 one of said site servers; and

7 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in
8 a way such that they are readable ~~may be read~~ by tag reader coupled to or part
9 of said data appliances; and

10 ~~one or more users coupled to said data center via the World Wide~~
11 ~~Web, wherein each of said~~ said compensation logic compensates for a mistake
12 by creating a tag read at said data center for a missing tag read, and users are
13 charged a fee per good tracked to access said data center and view reports
14 compiled using location information regarding each tracked good.

1 34. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 33, wherein
2 said tags and tag readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) ~~RFID~~
3 technology.

1 35. (Original) The system of claim 33, further including an
2 Intransit Data Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled
3 to said data center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the
4 location of a good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 36. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of
2 goods in a supply chain, including:

3 a data center comprising compensation logic;

4 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;

5 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to one of
6 said site servers;

7 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in a way
8 such that they are readable ~~may be read~~ by tag reader coupled to or
9 part of said data appliances; and

10 ~~one or more users coupled to said data center via the World Wide Web,~~
11 ~~wherein each of said~~ said compensation logic compensates for a
12 mistake by creating a tag read for a missing tag read, and users are
13 charged a fee per transaction to access said data center and view

14 reports compiled using location information regarding each tracked
15 good, each of said transactions including a tag read.

1 37. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 36, wherein
2 said tags and tag readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) ~~RFID~~
3 technology.

1 38. (Original) The system of claim 36, further including an
2 Intransit Data Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled
3 to said data center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the
4 location of a good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 39. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of
2 goods in a supply chain, including:
3 a collaboration center;
4 one or more data centers comprising compensation logic, coupled to said
5 collaboration center;
6 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;
7 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to one of
8 said site servers;
9 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in a way
10 such that they can be read by tag reader coupled to or part of said data
11 appliances; and
12 ~~one or more users coupled to said data center via the World Wide Web,~~
13 wherein each of said compensation logic compensates for a mistake by
14 creating a tag read at said data center for a missing tag read, and users
15 are charged a fee per good tracked to access said data center and view
16 ~~reports compiled using~~ location information regarding each tracked
17 good.

1 40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 39, wherein
2 said tags and tag readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) ~~RFID~~
3 technology.

1 41. (Original) The system of claim 39, further including an
2 Intransit Data Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled
3 to said data center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the
4 location of a good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 42. (Currently Amended) A system for real-time tracking of
2 goods in a supply chain, including:
3 a collaboration center;
4 one or more data centers comprising compensation logic, coupled to said
5 collaboration center;
6 one or more site servers coupled to said data center;
7 one or more data appliances, each of said data appliances coupled to one of
8 said site servers;
9 one or more tags, each of said tags affixed to a good or conveyance in a way
10 such that they are readable ~~may be read~~ by tag reader coupled to or
11 part of said data appliances; and
12 ~~one or more users coupled to said data center via the World Wide Web,~~
13 wherein each of said compensation logic compensates for a mistake by
14 creating a tag read at said data center for a missing tag read, and said
15 users are charged a fee per transaction to access said data center and
16 view reports compiled using location information regarding each
17 tracked good, each of said transactions including a tag read.

1 43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 42, wherein
2 said tags and tag readers both utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) ~~RFID~~
3 technology.

1 44. (Original) The system of claim 42, further including an
2 Intransit Data Appliance (IDA) and an Enterprise Server, said Enterprise server coupled
3 to said data center and said IDA coupled to said Enterprise Server to transmit data on the
4 location of a good or conveyance using Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.

1 45. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine
3 to perform a method for the real-time tracking of goods in a supply chain, the method
4 including:
5 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to
6 store or carry the goods;
7 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing
8 information on said location at a site server coupled to said data
9 appliance;
10 uploading said location information to a data center, said data center coupled
11 to said site server;
12 compensating for mistakes in said marking by creating a tag read at said data
13 center for a missing tag read; and
14 charging users of said supply chain a fee dependent on the number of tracked
15 goods to access said data center and view reports compiled using
16 location information regarding each tracked good.

1 46. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine
3 to perform a method for the real-time tracking of goods in a supply chain, the method
4 including:
5 affixing a tag to each good to be tracked and/or to each conveyance used to
6 store or carry the goods;
7 marking the location of one of the goods at a data appliance and storing
8 information on said location at a site server coupled to said data
9 appliance;

10 uploading said information to a data center, said data center coupled to said
11 site server;
12 compensating for a mistake in said marking by creating tag reads for missing
13 a tag read; and
14 charging users of said supply chain a fee per transaction to access said data
15 center and view ~~reports compiled using location~~ information regarding
16 each tracked good, each transaction including a single tag read.

1 47. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein said site server is
2 configured to aggregate one or more of said goods into a conveyance at a data point and
3 indicate an aggregation event.

1 48. (New) The system of claim 47, wherein said site server is
2 further configured to perform aggregation-by-inference, wherein an aggregation event
3 automatically indicates that said conveyance has been completely filled with items.
